

## **Colorado Crop Progress**

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

**USDA NASS** Colorado Field Office P.O. Box 150969, Lakewood, CO 80215 Phone 1-800-392-3202 · 1-800-643-6885

e-mail: nass-co@nass.usda.gov

To access USDA-NASS reports <a href="http://www.nass.usda.gov/">http://www.nass.usda.gov/</a>

Released: October 11, 2011 Vol. 48 No. 31

**Agricultural Summary**: Most of Colorado experienced above average precipitation and average temperatures last week. High winds and drier conditions were reported in the northeastern region of the State while the mountain regions reported the first frost of the season on October 7<sup>th</sup>. A light frost was also reported in the eastern region of the State as the growing season comes to a close. Farmers were allowed 5.5 days in the field for operations last week.

TOP SOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT							
Very Short   Short   Adequate   Surplu							
This Week	19	38	41	2			
Last Week	22	30	46	2			
Last Year	23	43	34	0			

SUBSOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT							
Very Short Short Adequate Surp							
This Week	20	37	41	2			
Last Week	22	33	43	2			
Last Year	15	41	44	0			

**Small Grains:** Planting of winter wheat progressed to 96 percent complete, one percentage point ahead of last year and 5 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average. The crop was 60 percent emerged by the end of last week. Spring wheat was 98 percent harvested.

**Row Crops:** Corn continued to be rated in mostly good to fair condition with 80 percent mature and 12 percent harvested. Corn silage was 96 percent harvested at week's end. Sorghum was 94 percent turning color with 50 percent of the crop mature and 6 percent harvested. The crop was rated in mostly fair condition. Onion harvest continued with 89 percent complete by the end of last week. Sugarbeets were rated in mostly good condition with 15 percent harvested, behind the 5-year average of 28 percent. Summer potatoes were 96 percent harvested, 5 percentage points ahead of the 5year average. Fall potato harvest was 54 percent complete with the crop rated in mostly good condition. Sunflowers were 20 percent harvested with the crop rated in good to fair condition. Dry beans were 96 percent cut and 71 percent harvested by the end of last week.

ROW CROP CONDITION BY PERCENT Week ending October 9, 2011								
Very Poor Fair Good Excelle								
	Poor							
	Corn							
This Week	3	8	35	42	12			
Last Year	3	4	19	62	12			
Sorghum								
This Week	8	26	38	26	2			
Last Year	3	8	18	54	17			

**Pasture and Range:** Pasture and range feed conditions across the state improved slightly with last week's moisture and were rated in good to fair condition. Alfalfa's 3<sup>rd</sup> cutting progress was reported at 97 percent complete with 50 percent of the 4<sup>th</sup> cutting complete by week's end. The crop was rated in mostly good to fair condition.

**Livestock:** Death losses for cattle and sheep were rated average for the State. Stored feed supplies were also rated average for this time of year.

PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION BY PERCENT Week ending October 9, 2011

	Very	Poor	Fair	Good	Excel
	Poor				-lent
Pasture & Range-2011	15	16	29	31	9
Prev. Year – 2010	2	10	36	48	4
5-Year Avg.	6	16	37	35	6

## **COLORADO CROP PROGRESS**

Development Ratings for Week Ending October 9, 2011

	•		,	
Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg.
Winter Wheat				
Seeded	96	81	81 95	
Emerged	60	40	64	64
Spring Wheat				
Harvested	98	92	99	98
Corn				
Mature	80	66	93	88
Harvested	12	5	30	27
Corn Silage				
Harvested	96	90	98	95
Sorghum				
Turning Color	94	90	100	99
Mature	50	40	86	75
Harvested	6	1	13	18
Sunflowers				
Harvested	20	17	40	37
Sugarbeets				
Harvested	15	8	32	28
Alfalfa				
3 <sup>rd</sup> Cutting	97	90	95	94
4 <sup>th</sup> Cutting	50	30	53	38
Dry Beans				
Cut	96	85	95	91
Harvested	71	61	88	74
Dry Onions				
Harvested	89	82	89	89
<b>Summer Potatoes</b>				
Harvested	96	93	98	91
Fall Potatoes				
Harvested	54	45	84	76

COLORADO CONDITION RATINGS 1/

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Livestock	0	2	17	63	18
Alfalfa	0	4	26	53	17
Sunflowers	3	12	36	41	8
Sugarbeets	1	3	24	55	17
Fall Potatoes	0	0	30	66	4

<sup>1/</sup> Crop condition ratings pertain to emerged plants early in the growing season through plants remaining to be harvested late in the season.